

REMARKS

The application has been amended as needed so as to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 9 and 15-16 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over the German reference DE 4,320,454 in view of WELLS 4,319,761. The Official Action concluded that it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to have provided the mop bucket disclosed by the German reference with four wheels as taught by WELLS, so that the mop bucket is stable when independent from the trolley.

Reconsideration of the above rejection is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

The Primary Examiner had kindly indicated that claims 10-14 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form so as to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By the present amendment, it will be seen that the same has been effected. Specifically, independent claim 9 has been amended so as to include the allowable subject matter formerly recited in claim 10. Naturally, claim 10 has been canceled, and the dependency of claim 11 has been changed so as to depend from a non-canceled claim. Claims 15 and 16 have likewise been canceled.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and allowance of the application on the basis of remaining claims 9 and 11-14 are accordingly earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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